

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 05323 121137Z

20

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 121007Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2412

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T AMMAN 5323

EXDIS

DOD SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR ISA (AMB ELLSWORTH), DIA (LGEN GRAHAM)

1. IN TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER RIFAI ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, I ASKED HIM ABOUT HIS RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON JORDANIAN ARM SALES FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA.
2. HE READ ME FURTHER STATEMENT ON SUBJECT WHICH HE HAD JUST DRAFTED, AGAIN DENYING THAT ARMS BEEN SOLD BY JORDAN TO ABOVE COUNTRIES, THAT JORDAN OBSERVED ALL STRICUTURES ON ARMS WHICH IT BOUGHT, AND THAT OLD AND OBSOLETE ARMS WERE BEING SOLD TO SUPPORT NEEDED JAF MODERNIZATION.
3. RIFAI ADMITTED THAT BOTH TIGERCAT MISSILES AND OLD CENTURION TANKS (MKV & MKVI) HAD BEEN SOLD. LATTER HAD ONLY SCRAP VALUE. PURCHASER HAD BEEN REPUTABLE EUROPEAN ARMS DEALER WHO HAD MADE "HIGH BID". RIFAI IMPLIED JORDAN NOT TOLD ULTIMATE DESTINATION. JORDAN HAS REPEATEDLY SOUGHT TO GET U.K. TO REPURCHASE THE ARMS. STATEMENT CONTAINS FUTURE COMMITMENT BY JORDA TO ASSURE CONTROL OF ULTIMATE PURCHASER OF ITS OLD ARMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENTS.
4. EMBASSY WILL REPORT TEXT OF JORDANIAN STATEMENT WHEN PUBLISHED SEPTTEL.
5. REMINDED PRIME MINISTER ABOUT STRICTURES ON JORDAN

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RESALE OF U.S. ARMS OF WHICH HE SAID HE WAS COMPLETELY

AWARE.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, ARMS, MILITARY SALES
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Draft Date: 12 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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